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SECURITY INFORMATION

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German Democratic Republic

25X1 SALE OF FOREIGN AND GERMAN-TYPE LOCOMOTIVES TO THE VHZ (S) FOR SCRAPPING (top; German; English; 1951) 25X1

[] Comment: []

This document consists of the following two reports on the purchase of locomotives by the VHZ (S) (People-Owned Trade Center, Scrap Department) for use as scrap.

1) A two-page, typewritten excerpt, in English, from a decree, dated 21 March 1951, of the German Reichsbahn Directorate in Berlin, which includes a table set up with the following headings: a) names of Railroad Districts which are to sell locomotives to the VHZ (S); b) number of locomotives, listed according to country of origin (France, Belgium, Netherlands, England, Italy), to be sold by each Railroad District; c) total number of locomotives to be sold by each Railroad District; d) number of German-type locomotives included in the total given under (c); e) individual totals for each group of foreign locomotives designated for sale; altogether, 698 locomotives of all types are to be sold, including 202 German-type locomotives. [] Comment: As of 30 September 1951, a total of 1,072 foreign-owned locomotives were available in the GDR. Eleven of them were operational, six were under repair, and 1,055 were assigned to the park for damaged locomotives. Most of these locomotives, which have been in the GDR since the end of the war, are irreparable.) It is stated that reclaimable parts of the locomotives may be removed before the locomotives are turned over to the VHZ (S). [] Comment: This measure has been authorized by GDR authorities because of the well known shortage of spare parts.) Locomotives other than those listed in the tabulation must not be scrapped. Foreign-owned locomotives which are still operational will continue to be used until they require repair. They are to be deactivated if repair work does not appear economical. [] Comment: A Soviet order dated 23 June 1951 prohibited the scrapping of locomotives [] It is believed that this order referred only to German locomotives and not to foreign-owned locomotives.)

2) A carbon copy of a two-page typewritten day-letter, dated 2 April 1951, in German, from the German Reichsbahn Directorate in Erfurt to the RBA's (Railroad Divisions) and BW's (Railroad Operations Offices) of the Erfurt Railroad District. It is stated that in order to procure scrap, 132 foreign locomotives (of French, Belgian, and Italian origin), of which 34 are German-type locomotives, are to be sold to the VHZ (S) in the Erfurt Reichsbahn-Directorate District. The letter issues detailed instructions concerning the sale of these foreign locomotives for scrapping, and specifies that spare parts and materials which are in short supply and needed by the Reichsbahn Directorates can be removed from the locomotives before they are scrapped. It is also stated that spare parts of German origin, particularly air and feed pumps, lubricating-oil pumps, and brake equipment, must be removed from the locomotives before scrapping. It is pointed out that locomotives other than the 132 listed cannot be scrapped, and that the 34 locomotives of German origin are to have first priority in deferment from dismantling, so that it can be determined whether spare boilers or underframes can be procured. It is further stated that the locomotives which are still in operation will be used for the time being, and will be scrapped when it becomes necessary. [] It is not clear whether "necessity" refers to the time when the locomotives are no longer operational or to the time when the scrap situation becomes acute. 7

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[] Foreign language document or microfilm of it [] is available from CIA library, ext.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO.

CD NO.

25X1A

DATE DISTR.

NO. OF PAGE

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

#1 (2 pages)
#2 (1 page)

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

SUBJECT Scrapping of Foreign Owned Locomotives
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PLACE
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SOURCE

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The attached report on the scrapping of foreign owned locomotives and the original decree of the Erfurt regional railroad headquarters, dated 2 April 1951, are forwarded to you on loan. Please return these reports at your convenience.

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1. The following foreign-owned locomotives are to be sold to the Volkseigene Handelszentrale, Abteilung Schrott (Nationalized Trade Central, Scrap Department) (VHZ,S), for scrapping:

Railroad District	France	Belgium	Nether-lands	England	Italy	Total	German Type Locomotives Included in this Total
Berlin	32	11	-	-	1	44	18
Cottbus	6	1	-	-	-	7	3
Dresden	87	25	-	-	4	116	59
Erfurt	123	8	-	-	1	132	34
Greifswald	26	12	15	-	1	54	15
Halle	99	15	-	1	1	116	29
Magdeburg	102	41	5	-	-	148	34
Schwerin	50	11	19	-	1	81	10
Total	525	124	39	1	9	698 (2)	202 *

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